

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 07278 211427Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /022 W
-----017250 212219Z /15

R 202209Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8481

UNCLAS CARACAS 7278

FOR: BIC/OED/MEPD AND BIBA CORLESS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETEL, BENC, VE
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: EARLY WARNING: CHANGE TO ELECTRONIC
SWITCHING IN TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

1. ACCORDING TO STATEMENTS MADE TO EMBOFF BY THE FORMER VICE
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC STATEMENT
LAST WEEK BY MINISTER VIVAS AT FEDECAMARAS CONVENTION, NATIONAL
TELEPHONE COMPANY (CANTV) IS NOW GIVING SERIOUS THOUGHT TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS INTENTION TO CHANGE THE ELECTRO-MECHANICAL
SWITCHING SYSTEM PRESENTLY USED IN ITS INTERNAL PLANT TO ELEC-
TRONIC SWITCHING. START-UP OF THIS PROGRAM IS SCHEDULED FOR 1981.
HOWEVER, OVER THE MEDIUM TERM CANTV INTENDS TO PREPARE ITS
ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONAL STAFF BEFORE THIS TIME TO BE READY
PERSONNEL-WISE WHEN THE CHANGE OVER OCCURS.

2. HERETOFORE, CANTV HAS PURCHASED CENTRALS PRIMARILY FROM
ERICSSON OF SWEDEN AND SIEMENS FROM GERMANY, WITH MOBILE EX-
CHANGES PURCHASED FROM HITACHI OF JAPAN. DUE TO THIS REFE-
RENCE FOR CERTAIN SUPPLIERS, U.S. FIRMS HAVE NOT HAD A MAJOR
PARTICIPATION IN THIS PARTICULAR MARKET, ALTHOUGH CERTAIN MICRO-
WAVE AND ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN BOUGHT FROM U.S.
SUPPLIERS. SINCE NEITHER ERICSSON NOR SIEMENS AT THIS TIME ARE
ABLE TO SUPPLY OPERATIONAL ELECTRONIC SWITCHING EXCHANGES, IT
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PAGE 02 CARACA 07278 211427Z

IS LIKELY THAT U.S. FIRMS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPLY THIS
SYSTEM, THE COST OF WHICH IS ESTIMATED TO RANGE FROM \$500 MILLION
UPWARDS.

3. THE FORMER VICE MINISTER RECENTLY VISITED THE FACILITIES
OF BELL LABORATORIES AND OF WESTERN ELECTRIC. THESE FIRMS ARE
WELL AS A.T.&T., G.T.& E. AND NORTHERN ELECTRIC HAVE IN THE

PAST EXPRESSED INTEREST IN COOPERATION.

4. ACTION REQUEST: EMBASSY WISHES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE EXECUTIVES OF CANTV AND THE NEW VICE MINISTER, DR. JESUS ALVAREZ FERNANDEZ. THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE INFORMING MINISTER ABOUT U.S. INTEREST AND CAPABILITY IN THIS FIELD. WE FURTHER RECOMMEND THAT WE BE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS THAT U.S. IS PREPARED TO ASSIST IN ARRANGING FOR FAMILIARIZATION AND TRAINING OF CANTV PERSONNEL AND THAT WE EXPECT TO OBTAIN THE COOPERATION OF U.S. COMPANIES IN THIS RESPECT. IN CASE USDOC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS PROJECT WITH ANY POTENTIAL SUPPLIER, IT MIGHT WISH TO SUGGEST TO THEM THAT CANTV WOULD POSSIBLY APPRECIATE COOPERATION BY THESE FIRMS ON AN INFORMATIONAL BASIS AT THIS TIME. POSSIBLY A SHORT VISIT BY COMPANY EXPERTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOOKING OVER CANTV'S FACILITIES AND TRAFFIC PATTERNS AND GIVING AN OPINION ON THE SCOPE, COMPLEXITY AND COST RANGE OF THE PROJECT, COULD BE PROFITABLE AND WOULD EARN TERRIFIC GOOD WILL.

VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, TELEPHONES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770260-0339
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770740/aaaabhtt.tel
Line Count: 81
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 37340467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1809955
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: EARLY WARNING: CHANGE TO ELECTRONIC SWITCHING IN TELEPHONE EXCHANGES
TAGS: ETEL, BENC, VE
To: COM
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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